

Traffic Management Meeting held 16th July 2021 – Alston Moor Parish Council update

Report on behalf of Cllr M Denoual (Nenthead Ward), Cllr E Grew (Garrigill Ward).

1.Update front Street works (Blagill & Garrigill)

Route checks completed. Sink hole on Blagill loop road repaired. Blagill & Garrigill routes inspected. Damage to verges attended to (in response to last request received). Member queried why only one side of road verges are being cut. Advised can be due to different cutting plans which are dependent on wildflower species, some areas scheduled for later cutting. Although works on Front Street aren't due to commence until 2nd August, reported that Garrigill residents have already noted an increase in traffic through village . Member queried temporary 30MPH speed limit that had previously been discussed. Blind spots could any warning signage be erected. Would it be possible to receive update? Advised different team, will be followed up and update sent via email. A request that Cllr Driver & an Officer from C.C.C drive route to check that any signage erected is sited correctly.

2.Collapsing wall – Blagill

Member reported collapsing retaining wall above Foreshield Farm . Loose stone falling onto highway. Advised work instruction had recently been completed , was this a separate issue. To be followed up.

3.Alston – Parking at Town Head

Member reported placement of double yellow lines had made no difference to parking issues, at times area down to single lane traffic due to parked cars. Currently no enforcement. Targeted traffic enforcement to be investigated (Traffic Warden) . Also, noted recent accident at Town Foot involving motorcyclist. Concerns raised around safety , specifically in relation to parking bay. Once Front Street works commence, highlighted that this area of town could become gridlocked with increased flow of traffic, no give way instructions . Motorists are relying on goodwill of other road users. Could parking restrictions be investigated. Follow up.

4.Clarification on new Nentsberry 40 MPH zone

Member reported new speed restriction signage erected on both Galligill/Hayring loop road and Blagill junction by Lovelady Shield Hotel yet appeared to be no signage relating to speed limit change on sections of A689 to indicate where new zones start and finish. To be investigated.

5. Pasture Houses – Garrigill

Complaints received about condition of track from Pasture Houses to ford. Condition of track deteriorating , bearing in mind main cycle route for C2C needs remedial works as currently unusable. Member queried if stone from riverbank could be used for repairs. Advised that special licence required to remove stone from riverbed. Noted that court case is ongoing relating to degree of maintenance required to be undertaken by Councils to maintain these routes. There has been unprecedented use of such tracks recently with one resident reporting more than 60 vehicles using one off road track near their property. To be checked and reviewed.

6.Nentsberry – condition of road surface between Nentsberry Chapel and Hags Bank

Member raised ongoing concerns about condition of road surface following recent works. Had a final assessment been carried out.? Advised prior to works commencing a condition survey had been completed. Current road surface is temporary. Once all ongoing works are completed , further remedial works will be required to road surface. C.C.C will conduct a further inspection, but to note that temporary works can be in place for up to 2 years. Ongoing updates requested.

7.Criteria for horse warning signs- request for signage near Garrigill turn off (Middleton Road)

Highways explained there are different types of signage. Warning signs are usually placed near stables. Unable to sign all horse riding routes. Crash group warning signs may be sited. Bleagate was identified as a known hazard spot. Next meeting of Crash group on 2nd Tuesday in August. If information can be collated and sent to officer, it can be raised at next meeting.

8.Request for street sign numbers for The Firs ,Alston

Causing issues for delivery drivers, issues noted include bottleneck around number 40 upwards. EDC has responsibility for signage, will be referred to property team.

9.Items not covered under agenda/matters arising

Brown Tourist signs Works have been instructed, were due to commence July. Works should be imminent.

Church Road working group Chair of Governors Alston Moor Federation has resigned, therefore new representative sought . Cllr Miller has joined Cllr Grew as parish council representatives; Cllr Miller will be new resident liaison representative. Walking bus scheme still to be discussed with be raised with new Head teacher.

Road closures during snow - request for snow gates review

C.C.C Winter review still ongoing , full review still to be completed. Request update from Highways .

Nenthead Gully cleaning past Woodbine Cottage and blocked drain top of hill by Village Hall to be followed up. Nenthead road resurfacing trial completed. Enquiry received about compensation for business interruption. Advised C.C.C do not pay compensation for business interruption during road works. Request for crash barriers Dowgang Hush, Killhope and Garrigill Bank, further information required . Request for road sweeper – Nenthead.

Overwater - Ongoing speeding issues, informed added to traffic count list , awaiting results. If 20 mph limit considered ,would then be included in speeding routes. Condition of road , potholes reported. Advised these could be investigated whilst completing drainage works near Nenthead Primary School. To note those road drainage improvements that were scheduled have had to be put back to week after next .

Galligill/ Hayring – ongoing issues with drainage , unauthorised access road. Debris washing onto highway. Skid risk , road also liable to icing. Further investigation required. Follow up planned.

Pothole reported at Carrshields junction on A689, adjacent to cast iron direction sign, danger to motorists and cyclists. To be investigated.

Garrigill Request for speed restrictions, currently on speed limit review. Possibility of informal consultation December time. Advised any concerns relating to speeding can be flagged up with police. Speed indicator displays (like one recently sited at Kingshead , Nenthead) are used as temporary calming measures in areas flagged up by mobile speed cameras. Temporary monitoring devices often have greater impact than fixed monitoring devices. Dead trees at Dodbury (cut up to Thortergill) , those affected on verge not on private land – investigate.

Alston Middle Farm road surface has been improved. Camber of road adjusted. Will need to monitor and re assess this winter. Owner of access road has purchased road plainings and remedial works done to access road. Coppice Wood white lines at junction still pending. Hartside crash barriers work ongoing. Loaning Head , safety swathes due to be cut next week.

Cllr Maxine Denoual - 19th July 2021